

Application No: 10/035,281  
Applicant: Khanna, Rohit Kumar  
Filing Date: 01/03/2002

## CLAIMS

What I claim as my invention is:

1-39. (Canceled)

40. A method of stabilizing the reshaped lamina after a laminoplasty comprising the steps of:

displacing the severed edge of the lamina at the junction of the lamina and facet, a fixation means comprising of an elongated plate with (appendages at either ends prior to the curvature defining a longitudinal axis of the plate to secure the displaced bone ends and maintain their repositioned shape along with fixation of the plate to the bone via bone fasteners) first and second ends and an intermediate portion, said intermediate portion comprising of one or more appendages to secure the displaced bone ends and maintain their repositioned shape, said first and second plate ends secured to the bone via bone fasteners.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein the said plate comprising of curvatures at the (ends of the longitudinal axis) said first and second ends, downward at (one) first end for fixation to a lamina and upward at the (other) second end for fixation to a facet by way of a screw through bone screw receiving holes at each end of the plate.

42. The method of claim 40 wherein (one of) the said plate comprising of two said appendages, (is) curved at (one) the said first plate end portion and straight at the (other) said second plate end portion. (perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature at both ends.)

43. The method of claim 40 wherein the said plate comprising of one said curved appendage (is curved at one end) at the intermediate portion. (perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature.)

44. The method of claim 40 wherein the said plate appendage at (one or both ends) the intermediate portion (perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis) is straight or curved.

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45. The method of claim 40 wherein the said fixation means is made from a biocompatible material selected from the group consisting of titanium, titanium alloys, surgical steel, polymeric material, ceramic material, resorbable material, polyglyconate, carbon fiber, bone, and hydroxyapatite.

46. A method of stabilizing the reshaped lamina after a laminoplasty comprising the steps of:  
displacing both lamina through severed edges in the middle, providing fixation means defining a U-shape comprising of a plate with two appendages perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the fixation means spaced apart in the middle to engage the lamina on either side with the said fixation means also comprising of curvatures at both ends to secure the fixation means to the lamina and/or facets on both sides with bone fasteners.

47. (canceled)

48. The method of claim 46 wherein the said (plate appendage is) appendages are curved (in the middle perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature at both ends) to secure the lamina.

49. The method of claim 46 wherein the said plate appendages are straight. (in the middle perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature at both ends.)

50. The method of claim 46 wherein the said plate has a plurality of bone screw receiving holes throughout.

51. The method of claim 46 wherein the said fixation means is made from biocompatible material selected from the group consisting of titanium, titanium alloys, surgical steel, polymeric material, ceramic material, resorbable material, polyglyconate, carbon fiber, bone, and hydroxyapatite.

52. A method of stabilizing the repositioned lamina after a laminoplasty comprising the steps of: displacing the severed edges of the lamina at the junction of the lamina and facets on both sides, providing a fixation means with an attached spacing means in the middle, the said spacing means contoured to engage between the lamina and facet on both

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sides of the vertebra, the said fixation means contoured to allow bone screw placement through one end to the lamina and the other end to the facet on both sides of the vertebra.

53-59. (Canceled)

60. (Previous claim 47) A method of stabilizing the reshaped lamina after a laminoplasty comprising the steps of:

displacing both lamina through severed edges in the middle,

providing a fixation means comprising of an elongated plate with a first and second end portions and an intermediate portion, said first and second ends comprising of a L-shaped curvature for fixation to facet and/or lamina bone on each side through bone receiving holes at each end of the plate, said intermediate portion comprising of two appendages spaced apart in the middle to engage the lamina on both sides.

61. (New) The method of claim 60 wherein the said (plate appendage is) appendages are curved (in the middle perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature at both ends) to secure the lamina.

62. (New) The method of claim 60 wherein the said plate appendages are straight. (in the middle perpendicular to the longitudinal plate axis and prior to the plate curvature at both ends.)

63. (New) The method of claim 60 wherein the said plate has a plurality of bone screw receiving holes throughout.

64. (New) The method of claim 60 wherein the said fixation means is made from biocompatible material selected from the group consisting of titanium, titanium alloys, surgical steel, polymeric material, ceramic material, resorbable material, polyglyconate, carbon fiber, bone, and hydroxyapatite.

65. (Original claim 24) A method of stabilizing the reshaped lamina after a laminoplasty comprising the steps of: displacing both lamina through severed edges in the middle, providing a fixation means with an attached spacing means in the middle, the said spacing means contoured to engage between the lamina, the said fixation means comprising of a curvature at both ends to secure the lamina and/or facets on both sides

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with bone fasteners.